



# August 2006 Newsletter



Iowa Governor Thomas Vilsack  
at the 2006 Governor's  
Summit on Afterschool

## Summit Update

The 2006 Governor's Summit on Afterschool was a resounding success! The Iowa Afterschool Alliance facilitated the Summit with a grant from the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices. The Summit, held on June 27th at the Hotel Fort Des Moines in downtown Des Moines, brought together about 125 people to discuss the benefits of afterschool and to explore its future in Iowa.

Much discussion focused on the need for more afterschool programs for middle and high school students to support graduation rates and for afterschool to be a consideration in high school reform efforts. Our audience included legislators, program directors, school principals and superintendents, state agency leaders, and other parties representing several interests such as law enforcement, workforce training, public health, and community- and faith-based organizations.

The Summit was held to engage policymakers and advocates in beginning to develop Iowa's Blueprint for Afterschool. This collection of recommendations for policies and funding to support afterschool in Iowa will be developed as a result of public input gathered at meetings held across the state over the next year. The first of these will be held in Council Bluffs on October 26th. The full Blueprint will be released in January of 2008.

## Expanding Partnerships

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance is pleased to welcome the following state agencies as new partners to our Steering Committee: Iowa Workforce Development, the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service, and the Iowa Department of Public Health. We eagerly look forward to collaborating with our new partners in the many activities planned for the next three years. A report of all new partners will be included in the next newsletter.

Our application for funding from the Mott Foundation was submitted demonstrating \$89,900 of state contributions for Year One. We thank the following organizations for commitments of funds for the operation of the Alliance: the Iowa Department of Human Services, the Iowa Afterschool Association, the Iowa Arts Council, and the Iowa Community Education Association. Your generosity gives the Iowa Afterschool Alliance the flexibility to do more for Iowa's youth and families.

## Upcoming Meetings

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance Steering Committee will be holding a retreat on August 15th from 9:30am to 4pm at the Neal Smith Wildlife Refuge Prairie Learning Center.

**The Iowa Afterschool  
Alliance (IAA)**

**Newsletter is a monthly  
venue of information  
and updates on  
afterschool programs  
and policies. For more  
information, please  
contact Rachel Scott  
at [rscott@sppg.com](mailto:rscott@sppg.com) or  
515-243-2000.**

Please RSVP to Rachel Lynch at rlynch@sppg.com. An agenda will follow shortly.

If you are interested in serving on the Steering Committee, please contact Rachel Scott at rscott@sppg.com or 515-243-2000. Please mark your calendar for the following regular meetings:

September 19, 2006    9:30-11am    ICN  
October 17, 2006    9:30-11am    ICN

### **Notice of Available Funds**

The Iowa Department of Public Health has posted a Request for Proposal on the IDPH Web site for school or community based obesity prevention efforts. Please visit the Web site at [www.idph.state.ia.us/do/notice\\_of\\_funds.asp](http://www.idph.state.ia.us/do/notice_of_funds.asp) to review the Iowans Fit for Life Obesity Prevention grant.

There is a Mott funded resource on obesity that is an excellent tool to use for the RFP or for your own information located at [www.statewideafterschoolnetworks.net/resources/wellness\\_and\\_youth\\_obesity\\_prevention.html](http://www.statewideafterschoolnetworks.net/resources/wellness_and_youth_obesity_prevention.html).

### **The Cost of Out-of-School-Time**

The Finance Project, an independent non-profit research, consulting, technical assistance and training firm for public and private sector leaders nationwide, has released a study on the cost of out-of-school-time programs. The text of the report can be found at [www.financeproject.org/Publications/litreview.pdf](http://www.financeproject.org/Publications/litreview.pdf).

### **Let Us Introduce Ourselves**

There have been some recent changes to the Iowa Afterschool Alliance since our last update. State Public Policy Group (SPPG) has been retained by the Alliance to provide management and staffing. Senior Program Manager Rachel Scott, who has led the IAA's advocacy work for the last three years, will serve as the Statewide Coordinator for the Alliance. Arlinda McKeen, President and Chief Operation Officer, has participated in efforts to develop an afterschool network in Iowa since 2001, and will also provide leadership and organizational development. Other key staff members will include Senior Program Managers Sarah Dixon, Erin Drinnin, Ben Banowitz, and Program Assistant Rachel Lynch. For more information, visit [www.sppg.com](http://www.sppg.com).

The Chrysalis Foundation will serve as the IAA's grantee for the next three years. Chrysalis Foundation was established in 1989 and has grown through an endowment from its founder to one of the most well-respected foundations in the state. With support of 25 afterschool programs for girls in a three-county area and the launch of six middle school programs for boys this year, Chrysalis Foundation has clearly similar priorities as the Iowa Afterschool Alliance. For more information, go to [www.chrysalisfdn.org](http://www.chrysalisfdn.org).

